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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 017344-0299

In re patent application of

Motohide OTSUBO

Group Art Unit: 2776

Serial No.: 09/357,841

Examiner: Unassigned

Filed: July 21, 1999

For: A METHOD OF EDITING STRUCTURED DOCUMENTS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

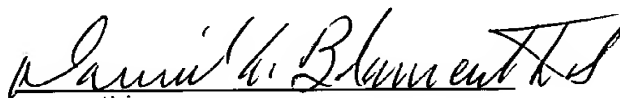
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Assistant Commissioner:

I hereby certify that the following paper(s) and/or fee along with any attachments referred to or identified as being attached or enclosed are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a) on the date of deposit shown below with sufficient postage and in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231.

1. Information Disclosure Statement
2. Form PTO 1449
3. Postcard

Respectfully submitted,


David A. Blumenthal
Reg. No. 26,257

January 30, 2001
Date

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 AND 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of document(s) known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of the listed document(s) is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first action under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). In the alternative, the instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(1).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 were cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding Japanese application. A copy of an English language abstract of the listed documents, if available, is being provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider this document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

The Examiner in the corresponding Japanese patent application has commented as follows:

Claim 1

Cited Literature 1 and 2

Remarks:

Cited Literature 1 (paragraphs 0002 and 0003, in particular) cites a structural pattern match that searches for document components that conform to the specified structural patterns, among document structures.

Definition of sequential relationship and nest relation between elements as in the configuration of the document structures is no more than could be adequately achieved by a person skilled in the art (see, for example, Cited Literature 2, from the 15th line from the bottom of page 8, to page 9, line 9). Therefore, the structural pattern match with regard to sequential relationship and nest relation between elements was found to be a matter of design as concerns a person skilled in the art.

List of Cited Literature

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. H7-56908
2. Hara, Miyazawa, and Negishi. "Search service for global database at the Science Information Center," Joho Shori Gakkai Kenkyu Joho, Vol. 91, No. 41; May 21, 1991 91-IS-34-2

It is believed that the instant information disclosure statement is being filed prior to the mailing date of any Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action. However, if this information disclosure statement is filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance or Final Office Action, then applicant(s) hereby request(s) and authorize(s) the PTO to charge the fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

January 30, 2001

Date

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